was it not incumbent on the Hon'ble Member to inquire into that subject?

Mr. A. L. Devassy (*Commissioner of Police*).—In the Palluruthi Coir Factory about 20 coolies struck work and in Cochin Tin Factory 57 coolies struck work. 9 of the strikers asked for interference. But as the situation was not considered very grave, Government did not think it proper to interfere.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim (*Cranganur*).—May I know whether there was any request directly or through public meetings that the Government might be pleased to interfere and revise the wages.

Mr. A. L. Devassy (*Commissioner of Police*).—As far as I remember no such request was made to Government formally.

Harbour Sergeant—particulars regarding.

214. **Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty** (*Anthikkad*).—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the officer in charge of the Mattancheri Town Station is not the Harbour Sergeant, Sankarankutty Menon;

(b) the period for which this arrangement has continued and is to continue hereafter;

(c) whether he had acted as Inspector of Police previously;

(d) whether he was subsequently reverted and for what reasons;

(e) his qualifications?

Mr. A. L. Devassy (*Commissioner of Police*).—

(a) Yes.

(b) from 8th Edavam 12 to 7th Mithunam 12.

,, 8th Mithunam 12 to 7th Karkadagam 12.

,, 8th Karkadagam 12 to 7th Chingam 13.

(c) He has not acted as Inspector at any time. Even now he is only in charge.

(d) In view of answer to (c), no reply is necessary.

(e) S. S. L. C. and exempted from Special tests.

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Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Anthikad).*—May I know, Sir, whether there are not permanent Head Constables who have acted before as Inspectors but who are now head Constables?

Mr. A. L. Devassy *(Commissioner of Police).*—If you want to make a distinction between Head Constables and Inspectors, the answer is 'yes.'

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Anthikad).*—Who has acted?

Mr. A. L. Devassy *(Commissioner of Police).*—The only Head Constable who has acted is now a Sergeant. The scale of pay is the same.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Anthikad).*—Is the Sergeant in charge of a station?

Mr. A. L. Devassy *(Commissioner of Police).*—He is not in charge of a station. He is in the reserve.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Anthikad).*—When Head Constables are put in charge, is not acting service considered?

Mr. A. L. Devassy *(Commissioner of Police).*—It ought to be considered.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Anthikad).*—May I know why the claims of those who have acted as Inspector was not considered in these cases?

Mr. A. L. Devassy *(Commissioner of Police).*—The claims were considered.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Anthikad).*—What was the conclusion arrived at after consideration?

Mr. A. L. Devassy *(Commissioner of Police).*—The conclusion was that the arrangement made was the best.

Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen *(Kattur).*—Was there any acting hand who ought to have been given preference?

Mr. A. L. Devassy *(Commissioner of Police).*—Nobody ought to have been given preference.

Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen *(Kattur).*—According to service those who have acted before ought to have been given preference. Was there not any police officer who had acted before?

Mr. A. L. Devassy *(Commissioner of Police).*—I have no objection to answer this question but it will not serve the interest of any officer.

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Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Anthikad).*—It is to serve the public interest.

Mr. A. L. Devassy *(Commissioner of Police).*—The public interest was considered in making this arrangement.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Anthikad).*—May I know whether there is not sufficient work for the Harbour Sergeant in the Harbour?

Mr. A. L. Devassy *(Commissioner of Police).*—But this arrangement is only temporary. The officer went on leave for one month and then he extended. All these were unforseen.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Anthikad).*— May I know whether the Police Commissioner is sure that the person concerned is a complete school Final?

Mr. A. L. Devassy *(Police Commissioner).*—He is a very old officer, and that is what his service book shows.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Anthikad).*—What is his total service, may I know?

Mr. A. L. Devassy *(Commissioner of Police).*—To the best of my recollection he began service in 1084.

Mr. M. V. Cherian *(Mattancheri South).*—Who is looking after the Harbour?

Mr. A. L. Devassy *(Commissioner of Police).*—He is supervising the work. A Head constable is also put in charge to help him.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Anthikad).*—Is it for want of hands that the Harbour Sergeant is put in charge of Mattancherri Police Station also?

Mr. A. L. Devassy *(Commissioner of Police).*—It is in the exigencies of service. It was a short vacancy. The officer happened to extend his leave because he was ill and he had to undergo an operation. These three months were not anticipated at the beginning.

Mr. M. V. Cherian *(Mattancheri South).*—Who is that officer?

Mr. A. L. Devassy *(Commissioner of Police).*—Mr. Sebastian, D. S. P.

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Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Urakam*).—Is this the officer who has been ordered by the Government to clear his character with regard to the strike incident?

Mr. A. L. Devassy (*Commissioner of Police*).—He is the officer.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (*Antlikad*).—May I know whether the putting in charge was made after the Tin Factory strike?

Mr. A. L. Devassy (*Commissioner of Police*).—The Tin Factory strike began on 27—5—12 and he was put in charge on 8—11—1112.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Urakam*).—What are the dates on which the officer filed complaints to clear his character?

Mr. A. L. Devassy (*Commissioner of Police*).—I want notice.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar (*Urakam*).—What are the special tests from which he was exempted?

Mr. A. L. Devassy (*Commissioner of Police*).—The Police test and the Special Tests which an Inspector has to pass.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Urakam*).—Have there been any bad records against his previous conduct in his service book?

Mr. A. L. Devassy (*Commissioner of Police*).—Not in the near past.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Urakam*).—Are there any in the distant past?

Mr. A. L. Devassy (*Commissioner of Police*).—I want notice.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Urakam*).—Does not the Police Commissioner look into those things when he makes a departure from the ordinary way and gives some sort of preference to those who have not acted? Could they not be gathered from his service book?

Mr. A. L. Devassy (*Commissioner of Police*).—I did that, for or the last 15 years. There was nothing against him.

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Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (*Anthikad*).—May I know whether there is no Head Constable attached to the Mattancherry Police Station?

Mr. A. L. Devassy (*Commissioner of Police*).—There are many.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (*Anthikad*).—Was there any objection to put any of them in charge?

Mr. A. L. Devassy (*Commissioner of Police*).—When a senior officer was available, we put him in charge. The Sergeant was senior to a Head constable.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (*Anthikad*).—Have not the Government put the second grade Head Constables in charge of stations?

Mr. A. L. Devassy (*Commissioner of Police*).—Yes.

Mr. M. V. Cherian (*Mattancheri South*).— Does he not discharge his duties properly?

Mr. A. L. Devassy (*Commissioner of Police*).—Yes.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim (*Cranganur*).—How long is it since he entered service?

Mr. A. L. Devassy (*Commissioner of Police*).—I have answered that.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (*Anthikad*).—Why is it after such a long service and after having passed his S. S. L. C. and having been exempted from Special Tests that he was not getting an acting place as Inspector.

Mr. A. L. Devassy (*Commissioner of Police*).—He is the Sergeant of the Harbour.

Primary Schools—Chittur Taluk—strength of.

215. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Wadakkancheri*).—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) what is the strength of each of the classes in Primary Schools in the Chittur Taluk on the closing of admissions in Mithunam 1112;

(b) what is the number of children of school-going age in the said Taluk?

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